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The Day of Infamy - The War on Fascism

Dozens Of Illinoisans Died At Pearl Harbor

Anniversary of Attack is December 7

Tom Emery

It is known as “the day that will live in infamy.” It was the day in which the constitutional government in the United States was attacked by the forces of authoritarian fascism. Like the rest of the nation, the people of Illinois felt its scars.

This year, Sunday, Dec. 7, marks the 84th anniversary of Pearl Harbor, which left 2,403 Americans dead. Among them were dozens of Illinoisans, including George Francis Clark, 20, of Paris, IL, who was lost on the USS Arizona (see photos below).

Born in Paris, IL on March 31, 1921, Clark’s father was a taxi driver. The family resided at 1208 South Marshall Street.

The fifth of eight children, Clark attended the local high school but never graduated. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy at St. Louis on Jan. 16, 1940.

He was assigned to the Arizona on March 26, 1940 and was a Gunner’s Mate Third Class at the time of Pearl Harbor. His body was never recovered, and he remains entombed on the Arizona.

Clark was one of four brothers in military service. His younger sibling, Robert, a private in the 79th Infantry Division, died in France on Oct. 10, 1944.

One Illinoisan of note was Lt. John Dains, a 21-year-old Mount Olive native who was serving



President Franklin D. Roosevelt delivering the “Day of Infamy” speech to a joint session of the U.S. Congress on December 8, 1941, in which the United States declared war on fascism.

in the Army Air Corps. A student at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, Dains was one of the few American airmen who made it off the ground that morning.

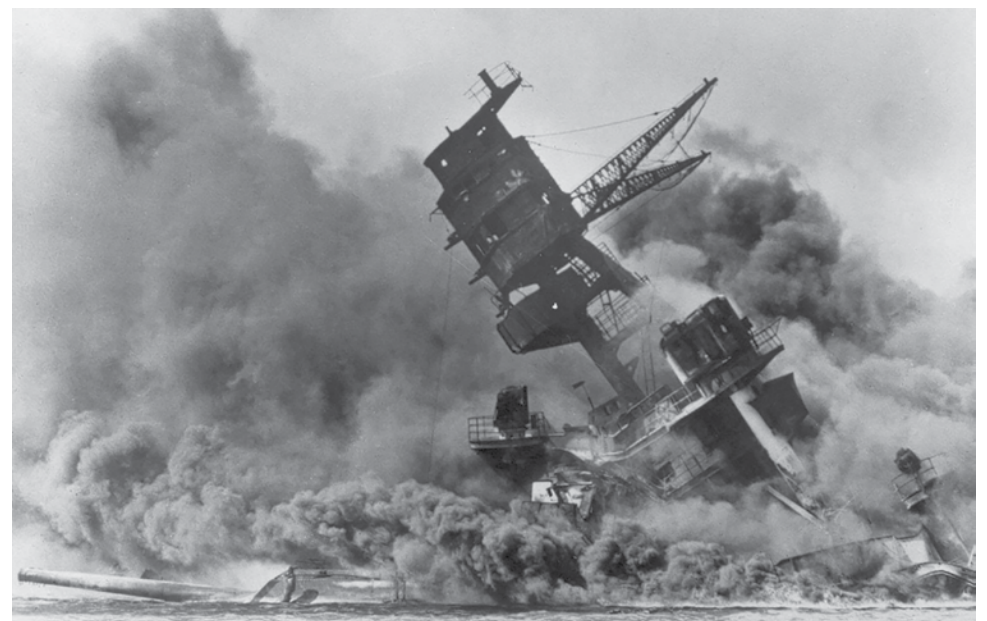
Dains’ role in the American defense is one of the intriguing, yet overlooked, stories of Pearl Harbor. Some researchers believe he shot down the first Japanese plane in the war, while others cite a lack of evidence for that claim. Others believe he was the first pilot to die.

Regardless, there is no question of Dains’ valor. When the bombing originated, Dains and

another man, Lt. Harry Brown, hopped in a Jeep and raced through cane fields to reach a base.

From there, Dains flew two sorties in a P-40 in the early stages of the bombing. Various accounts state that Dains was forced to land either for lack of fuel, or because his bullet-riddled plane was unable to return. He then went up for a third time in a P-36, but was mistaken for the enemy, and downed by friendly fire.

Dains was posthumously awarded the Silver Star and a Purple Heart. Days later, Brown
continued on page 2



Explosion of the USS Arizona and its burning aftermath

Pearl Harbor

from page 1

wrote to Dains' family that their son "died as he wanted to die – fighting and laughing to the last. He gave his life for his country – he died a true hero's death."

Like Dains, William Arbuckle of Marshall had also attended college, spending a year at DePauw University in Indiana before landing a job as an assistant manager at a Woolworth store in Champaign.

Arbuckle enlisted in the U.S. Navy on May 20, 1941 and was on the USS Utah at the time of the bombing. Though most men managed to escape when the Utah capsized, Arbuckle was one of 58 men who perished.

Days later, some of Arbuckle's friends in Marshall received Christmas cards from him, dated November 29.

One of the older men to die at Pearl Harbor was Capt. Thomas Kirkpatrick, 54, a Navy chaplain who studied, and was ordained, in

Chicago. Kirkpatrick had been a chaplain in the Navy since February 1918, and is believed to be the first military chaplain killed in the war.

In central Illinois, Edward Clapp of Forsyth, 31, had joined the Navy at age sixteen, serving intermittently over fifteen years. His father had died in service in World War I.

Nearby, the Conlin family of Decatur was a military family, as seven brothers served in the Navy. Two died on the Arizona at Pearl Harbor. One was James Conlin, a 19-year-old Fireman Second Class.

The other, Bernard, was a Seaman Second Class who had turned 18 just fifteen days before. They were among 57 Illinoisans who were lost on the Arizona, the ship that is most synonymous with the attack. The Conlins were one of 38 sets of brothers stationed on the Arizona, 23 of which were lost.

Some families endured an agonizing wait for word on their loved ones. In Clark County, Lester Walden did not hear for days on his brother, Cleo, who was stationed at Pearl Harbor. Finally, the Clark County Democrat printed word on December 31 that Cleo was "safe and unhurt."

On the other end of the state, the family of Phil Merker of Rosiclare, near the Ohio River, awaited word from his brother, who was stationed with the Marines at Honolulu. As the Hardin County Independent reported, "their worries were eased yesterday when they received a cablegram, 'Safe and well.'"

In the Calumet Region of Chicago, the Stodola family received a letter a week after the bombing from their son, George Jr., who was on the USS Phelps at Pearl Harbor. His letter read, "I know you are worried so I thought I would drop you a few lines to let you know I am ok." The local paper reported "there was great joy" in the household from the news.

For one family in the tiny Clark County village of Walnut Prairie, the long wait ended in sorrow. On January 7, the parents of Virgil Rayhel learned he had died in the attack.

Virgil had graduated from the Air Corps School at Chanute Field in Rantoul in 1938 and had spent several months at Lowery Field in Colorado. He was shipped to Honolulu in 1940, and stationed at Hickam Field.

The remains of U.S. servicemen are still being identified, eighty years later. One example is Navy Fireman First Class Robert Harr, a product of Dallas City in northwestern Illinois, whose remains were accounted for in February 2021. Harr, who died on the USS Oklahoma, was buried in August.

The Arizona and Oklahoma were among nineteen U.S. ships that were either damaged or destroyed at Pearl Harbor. Navy men accounted for 2,008 of the American casualties in the attack.

In addition to the deaths, 1,178 American servicemen were wounded. A total of 159 U.S. planes were damaged in the bombing, while another 169 were destroyed.

Tom Emery is a freelance writer and historical researcher from Carlinville, Ill.



Polnow, Robert Edward

Robert (Bob), 88 died on Nov. 25, 2025, with family by his side. Born on March 24, 1936, to Arthur Sr. & Martha (Markison) Polnow in Woodstock, IL. He lived most of his adult life in Marengo, IL. He married Bernice (Weidner) June 15, 1957, at Zion Lutheran Church, Marengo, IL. Bob served in the U.S. Army. He worked at Arnold Engineering for 37 years until 2002. His pastimes upon retiring were keeping a beautiful lawn and tinkering or repairing anything that needed fixing. He was a wealth of Marengo, IL history, detailing exactly where people and businesses were with his nephew Brad and his wife Anna for hours on end.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents; wife Bernice (2021); and brother Arthur Jr. (2021).

He is survived by his sister, Carol Reinert; brother-in-law Larry (Judy) Weidner; and numerous nieces & nephews. There will be no visitation. He will be laid to rest in Marengo City Cemetery, Marengo, IL.



Raymond Glenn, 92, Poplar Grove, November 20
Carolyn Graham, 75, Belvidere, October 30
Marjorie Graves, 91, Belvidere, November 18
Katie Kelly, 69, Marengo, November 20, 2025
Burley Linhart, 91, Harvard, November 20, 2025
Nancy Love, 75, Belvidere, November 19
Raymond Pozezinski, 88, Belvidere, November 20
Patricia Sanford, 93, Formerly of Belvidere, Nov 17
Charles Wheeler, 94, Belvidere, Nov 20, 2025



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Thoughts About The Shutdown

Bob Evans Rockford University

Now that the moment, crisis really, has passed we can answer the question posed recently by The Washington Post: "Do Shutdowns Work?" The answer is twofold. First, no they do not. Second, we are all too likely to suffer through more of them, and perhaps all too soon.

Let us begin by remembering how we got here. The memory will prove instructive. The shutdown occurred on October 1. Why then? The Federal government's budget or fiscal year runs from October 1 to September 30 of the following calendar year. Article I of the Constitution assigns to Congress the power to "lay and collect taxes", and to spend to promote "the general welfare". Congress budgets through at least 13 separate major budget bills, which are passed-or sometimes not passed-in separate acts of legislation. By this September 30 Congress had not adopted some of these bills, so its spending authority expired. Many government agencies thus had to "shut down".

Among the unfunded programs on September 30 were various provisions of the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare), and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food supplements. Both of these programs focus their benefits on low income fellow citizens. The shutdown, then, imposed its harms most oppressively on those who most needed the aid. Cuts in these programs were imposed by the so called "One Big Beautiful Bill", shepherded by Republicans through the Republican controlled Congress, and signed by President Trump.

There were other unfunded programs. Among them were revenue provisions for air traffic controllers and the TSA employees who shepherd us through airports. These folks, designated "essential" workers, were supposed to work without pay. When many of them could not work because they could not afford to, and had to take part time fill-in jobs, two things happened. First, chaos in air travel ensued. Second, many were slandered as they were reported as "calling in sick".

The situation deteriorated as over 40 million people were to be denied nutritional assistance, and over 10 million persons were to be denied health care assistance. Obviously, the two groups of victims overlapped.

Why did this situation continue to deteriorate? The answer is simple, but depressing. Republicans would not compromise on the cuts they had made in the budget for two reasons. They contended that some of the funds were wasted on undeserving recipients, and that the persistent budget deficits had to be slashed in order to restore fiscal stability.

Democrats, for their part, would not vote to restore spending until they secured a Republican promise to fund both the disputed expenditures for health care and nutritional support that would focus on low income citizens. Even though Re-

publicans have a majority in both houses of Congress, they do not have enough Senate votes to defeat a filibuster without the votes of the eight Senators they eventually secured.

In order to understand why what happened did happen, do not think of the lessons taught in American Government classes. Do not think of negotiations and compromises leading to a resolution that both sides can endorse. Several Senators contrasted what actually occurred with the comforting textbook description of the legislative process

Think instead of a high stakes game of "Chicken". Think of a situation in which the very thing I demand is the one thing you will not grant or concede. Think of two people standing on opposite sides of the Grand Canyon just shouting at each other. Where is the basis for productive compromise?

The repetitive and mutually exclusive demands for "compromise" continued for 43 days, before eight Senators indeed compromised by voting to fund the bill they had been opposing. By their own admission they had realized that there was no way that Republicans were going to accede to their demands.

What does this shutdown, as well as previous ones, teach us about shutdowns? There have been three lengthy shutdowns before this one. They occurred in 1995, 2013, and 2018. None of them accomplished the goals of those who initiated them. In 2023, the Republican Speaker of the House resisted the call of his members for a shutdown and was summarily removed.

Our American Government textbooks register a sharp decline in collegiality in Congress, combined with increasingly partisan voting behavior. Shutdowns promote the very partisanship and declining collegiality that the textbooks register as problematic. Shutdowns both reflect and promote the problems the textbooks note.

Virtually every measure that we have of public opinion concerning government and those who serve in it generates the same conclusion. The American people trust government and those who run government less than at any time in modern history. Why should we trust those who literally cannot even keep the doors open?

We cannot even take much comfort from the fact that the shutdown has ended once we recollect some of the primary causes for its ending. Just consider two impending events that helped to "reopen" the government. Neither provides comfort go-

ing forward. One was the Thanksgiving holiday that was rapidly approaching. Think of the wrath that would be visited upon members of Congress if they did not restore something like normality for Thanksgiving travelers. They thought of that wrath.

The other event that promoted reopening was the belated recognition by Democrats of just who it was that they were harming with their votes. They were refusing to vote to reopen government until Republicans gave them what they wanted. Until Republicans agreed to restore spending on nutritional aid and health care, Democrats threatened to keep shutting down the very government that provided the very programs to the very people Democrats sought to protect. Realizing the Illogic of that position was, to put it mildly, sobering. It changed votes.

We have thus far contended that shutdowns produce primarily negative outcomes. If that is so, then we should prepare for more of such outcomes, and soon. The current budget authorization, adopted after a 43-day shutdown, expires at the end of January. Get ready.



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Duckworth Staffer Dismissed in the Wake Of Immigration Accusations

Senator's letter to ICE director states the employee acted without authority

Beth Hundsdorfer Capitol News Illinois

U.S. Sen. Tammy Duckworth has fired a staffer accused of misrepresenting himself as an attorney and falsifying an official form to visit and secure the release of a Staunton restaurant owner detained by immigration agents.

Duckworth sent the letter, a copy of which was obtained by Capitol News Illinois, to Immigration and Customs Enforcement Acting Director Todd Lyons on Monday, notifying him that staffer Edward York has been terminated.

Last week, Lyons sent a letter to Duckworth's office informing her of the allegations against York. The letter ended with a request that Duckworth respond to eight written questions, including whether York acted under her direction and authorization.

"Upon reviewing the matter, I can confirm that neither I, nor my leadership team, was aware of, authorized or directed what your letter describes as the employee's conduct," Duckworth's letter stated.

Thomas Q. Keefe III, York's attorney, declined to comment. Duckworth's office released a statement to Capitol News Illinois late Tuesday.

"The employee in question is no longer employed by the Senator's office. Beyond that, we are not going to discuss personnel matters," a spokesperson said in an email. "But since ICE suddenly seems to care about accountability, the American people deserve to know if anyone there will be held accountable for lying to federal courts, illegally detaining Americans, or any of the countless other constitutional rights Trump's ICE agents have been caught on video violating."

York, a constituent outreach coordinator in Duckworth's Belleville office, went to the ICE Office in St. Louis on Oct. 29 — hours after agents detained Ismael Ayuzo Sandoval. Ayuzo was detained near his daughter's school. York claimed to be Ayuzo's attorney, Lyons' letter stated, and demanded agents take York to see his client.

York then asked agents for a G-28 form, known as a Notice of Entry of Appearance as an Attorney or Accredited Representative.

"This staff member allegedly did so to gain access to the detainee and seek his release from custody, and he accomplished it by falsifying an official Department of Homeland Security (DHS) form," Lyons stated in the letter.

After Ayuzo signed it, seeking help, York then asked to see Ayuzo, according to Lyons' letter, and was turned away. He was informed that he needed to visit Ayuzo at the county jail in Ste. Genevieve, Missouri, about 65 miles south of St. Louis.

The letter further stated that, under the belief York was Ayuzo's attorney, the immigration agent shared information with York, including that Ayuzo was deported four times and had a DUI conviction.

After further investigation, Lyons stated that ICE staff could not verify that York was an attorney.

Four days later, the Suarez Law Office in Collinsville, filed a G-28.

ICE agents later found a social media post on the Montgomery County Democrats' page, stating that a member of Duckworth's office went to the St. Louis field office "with a packet of documents including a release order," Lyons' letter stated.

Congressional staffers may request help on behalf of someone without legal status, but the detainee must grant permission for ICE to release information to them, according to the ICE website.

Lyons included a photo of the Montgomery County Democrats' post that stated: "He is going there without giving 'them' knowledge he is on the Senator's staff think they would be more cooperative."

"It appears as if Mr. York may have collaborated with the firm to cover his misrepresentation," Lyons' letter stated.

Lloyd Cueto Jr., Marleen Suarez's attorney, declined to comment. Suarez could not be reached for comment.

Ayuzo remains in custody in Ste. Genevieve as his attorney, Suarez, continues to fight his deportation. In her petition to stay his deportation filed last week, she stated that Ayuzo was never convicted of DUI, and the traffic case was dismissed after he successfully completed the terms of his supervision.

Ayuzo is a beloved figure in Staunton — a town of around 5,000 people in Macoupin County. Residents there rallied support around Ayuzo, stating he was a good husband and father and a valuable member of the community. Ayuzo, a married father of two, owns a restaurant called Caldera Bar and Grill on Main Street.

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service that distributes state government coverage to hundreds of news outlets statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

ICC Slashes Nicor, Ameren Proposed Gas Rate Hikes by Over 40%

Environmental and consumer advocates applaud decision for promoting energy affordability

Maggie Dougherty Capitol News Illinois

The Illinois Commerce Commission Wednesday sharply cut rate increases proposed by Nicor Gas and Ameren Illinois, slowing the speed of rising energy bills for customers in much of the state.

Instead of approving the full \$314 million requested by Nicor and \$129 million requested by Ameren, the ICC cut 47% and 43% from the requests, respectively.

As a result, the ICC approved a rate increase of \$168 million for Nicor and \$73 million for Ameren Illinois.

In a news release after the ruling in Chicago, ICC Chairman Doug Scott said the decision was made after careful review to approve only "necessary and justified" projects while striking "excess" spending.

"The ICC's responsibility is to balance the interests of Illinois' utilities and their customers," Scott said in the release. "We recognize that any decision impacting Illinoisians' bills is not a small one."

Nicor, the largest gas utility in the state, serves 2.3 million customers in northern Illinois and the Chicago suburbs. In January, Nicor originally requested a \$309 million rate increase that was estimated by the company to raise typical residential bills by about \$7.50 per month, or about 9%.

At the time, the request was the largest in state history before it was amended up to the \$314 million amount.

In a statement released after Wednesday's decision, Nicor estimated that typical residential customers would see an increase of less than \$4.25 monthly, or less than 5% annually.

Ameren, which provides natural gas delivery to approximately 816,000 customers in central and southern Illinois, filed in January for a \$134 million rate increase that a spokesperson said would increase typical residential bills by about \$9.09 per month, an 11.9% increase.

Ameren spokesperson Ellie Leonard said in an email to Capitol News Illinois that Ameren was still reviewing the ICC's order and running calculations to determine the rate impact to consumers.

continued on page 5

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Infrastructure upgrades, repairs

The companies said the increase was needed to fund replacements or retirements of aging infrastructure for gas transmission lines and upgrades to gas storage facilities.

“As we enter the winter season, the safety and vitality of our 800,000 residential, public sector and business customers depends on our ability to deliver natural gas on the coldest of days without interruption,” Brad Kloeppel, Ameren gas operations and technical services senior director, said in a statement.

The Ameren statement also touted use of underground storage facilities which allow Ameren to purchase gas in the summer when prices are typically lower and deliver it to customers at a stable price during the winter heating season.

But consumer advocates say all the upgrades are not necessary, or at least not now.

Abe Scarr, director of the Illinois Policy Interest Research Group, or Illinois PIRG, said Nicor has a system that operates safely and well overall. Investing in major infrastructure updates now, he said, does not necessarily make sense for consumers.

“It makes a big difference if you invest in a new pipeline in 2020 versus 2025, and it makes a big impact on consumers and consumer rates,” Scarr said. “So, it’s not only a question of ‘Is this investment reasonable or prudent at all?’ It’s also, ‘Does it need to be made now?’”

While consumer and environmental advocates applauded the ICC’s decision to minimize rate increases, some said any amount was still too high after repeated steep rate increases over the past decade.

According to Illinois PIRG, this is the fifth increase for Nicor since 2017 and the fourth for Ameren since 2018.

“With this increase, Nicor’s rates will have risen by 137% since 2017 and Ameren’s by 70% since 2018,” Scarr said in a statement.

The Citizens Utility Board, a nonprofit Illinois utility watchdog group, contrasted the costs for consumers with the utilities’ growing profits over the same periods.

“It’s beyond troubling that a corporation getting so fat on its own prosperity continues to demand ever greater financial sacrifices from its customers,” CUB Director of Communications Jim Chilsen said of Nicor in a statement. He released a similar statement regarding Ameren.

In recent years, however, the ICC has proven more willing to diminish rate requests. In November 2023, it slashed rate increase requests by Ameren, Nicor and two other Chicago-area gas utilities by 25-50%. The following month, it rejected a pair of grid plans from electric utilities Commonwealth Edison and Ameren Illinois citing significant shortcomings and transparency concerns.

Meeting clean energy goals

While advocates had mixed responses to the rate case decisions, they found other items to celebrate in the ICC’s nearly 400-page rulings.

The ICC discontinued a Nicor pilot program called TotalGreen, which had offered customers

the option to pay a premium for carbon offsets and “renewable natural gas” credits. Nicor had sought to make the program permanent.

Of Nicor’s 2.3 million customers, only 238 had enrolled in TotalGreen after three years of operation, according to testimony submitted by the Environmental Law & Policy Center, a Midwest-focused environmental legal advocacy organization. The ELPC’s analysis found that Nicor spent \$2,429 per customer for a program with less than 0.01% customer participation.

While Nicor has not proposed charging customers to cover the cost of that program, Scarr said there are more efficient ways to meet decarbonization goals. He pointed to Nicor’s energy efficiency program.

“That (energy efficiency program) has saved way more emissions than this TotalGreen program by reducing energy use in gas consumption in the first place by making homes more efficient,” Scarr said. “That is a much better value proposition for Nicor customers.”

The ICC also rejected a proposal by Ameren to capture biomethane gas released as organic material such as livestock manure, food waste and sewage break down. Ameren sought to capture that gas and refine it into pipeline-quality gas to be used as an alternative energy source, reducing the amount of unburned methane gas going into the atmosphere.

However, the ICC found that Ameren did not prove the project would reduce carbon emissions in a cost-effective way.

Environmental advocates applauded the Commission’s rejection of what Scarr called “false solutions.”

“The Commission’s order makes meaningful progress on energy affordability and climate progress,” Curt Stokes, senior attorney at the Environmental Defense Fund said in a statement.

“Just as importantly, it set strong guardrails that push utilities to pursue cleaner, more affordable alternatives instead of doubling down on yesterday’s gas infrastructure.”

Requests For New K-12 Funding in Illinois Likely To Outstrip Available Resources

At public hearings, ISBE hears requests totaling \$748M

Peter Hancock Capitol News Illinois

If advocates, stakeholders and members of the public were granted all their requests for public school funding next year, lawmakers would have to increase the state’s K-12 education budget by nearly three-quarters of a billion dollars.

That’s the approximate total of all the requests that Illinois State Board of Education officials received online and in-person during a recent series of public hearings about a proposed budget for the next fiscal year.

The total is considerably smaller than last year’s

requests, which added up to more than \$2.2 billion in new funding. But it is still more than what is likely to be available, given that Gov. JB Pritzker is asking most state agencies to make plans for reducing spending by 4% in the current fiscal year in light of fiscal uncertainty at the federal level.

ISBE board members were briefed on the funding requests during their monthly meeting Thursday in Chicago.

Full EBF, categorical boost

The requests included continued funding of the statutory \$350 million increase in the Evidence-Based Funding formula, or EBF. That’s a formula that lawmakers first approved in 2017 that directs new money to the most underfunded districts in the state. It also directs money for property tax relief for certain high-tax districts.

The EBF formula, however, does not include all areas of education spending. It focuses primarily on classroom expenses directly related to improving student outcomes, taking into account the special needs of certain groups such as low-income households and English language learners.

But schools also incur other costs, known as “mandated categorical programs,” that are not covered by the EBF formula. Those include costs associated with special education, transportation and school meals, to name a few, and they are typically shared on a prorated scale between the state and local districts.

The list of funding increases requested for next year included a \$100 million increase in state funding for those costs.

Matthew Seaton, ISBE’s chief financial officer, said the requested increase in that category, sometimes referred to as MCATs, was the most frequently mentioned funding request that officials heard about this year.

“I think this is the first time, at least since I’ve been at the agency, that our most requested budget item was in the MCAT line item,” he said. “Usually, it’s EBF. Everybody wants EBF. So I think that’s very telling to where the field’s perception is of needs, that they’re really emphasizing mandated (categoricals) this year.”

New literacy plan, more

The request list also included \$68.5 million for implementation of ISBE’s new literacy plan, a program the board approved in 2024 to improve literacy instruction throughout the state.

Other requests included an additional \$30 million to hire more special education teachers to relieve staff shortages; a \$30 million increase for multilingual education, and a \$60 million increase in early childhood block grants.

The list of requests included 51 categories of school spending, with increases totaling \$747.9 million.

Receiving public input for funding requests is one of the first steps in developing a budget proposal for the upcoming year. In December, the board will receive another briefing about the state’s financial condition from the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability, the fiscal staff of the General Assembly.

The board is expected to approve its official budget request at its Jan. 14 meeting in Springfield.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

MCLP Asset Company, Inc. Plaintiff,
-v- 2025FC39
Denise M. Moore; et. al. Defendants.
442 W JACKSON ST,
BELVIDERE, IL 61008

NOTICE OF SALE

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The judgment amount was \$132,632.81
This sale is subject to a prior mortgage.

Sale Terms: Full Sale Terms are available on the property page at www.auction.com by entering 442 W JACKSON ST into the search bar. The winning bidder must pay the full bid amount within twenty-four (24) hours of the auction’s end. All payments must be certified funds. No third-party checks will be accepted. All bidders will need to register at www.auction.com prior to placing a bid. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff and in “AS IS” condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a certificate of sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property, prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by the Condominium property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9 (g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

For information, contact Plaintiffs attorney: CODILIS & ASSOCIATES PC (630) 794-5300 please refer to file number 14-25-03519.
Auction.com, LLC
100 N LaSalle St., Suite 1400 Chicago, IL 60602 – 872-225-4985
You can also visit www.auction.com.
Attorney File No. 14-25-03519
Case Number: 2025FC39
NOTE: PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, YOU ARE ADVISED THAT PLAINTIFF’S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
6088-957216
Published in The Boone County Journal 11/25, 12/2/9 SW

TO: Unknown Heirs & Devises for the Estate of Vernon C. Roush, Jr.;
Unknown Heirs & Devises for the Estate of Vernon C. Roush, Jr.;
Vernon C. Roush, Jr.; Toby Roush; Toby Roush; Occupant;
Michael Stokes;
Amy Ohlsen, County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois;
Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as “Unknown Owners”;
“Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots”.
TAX DEED NO.: 2025TX17 FILED: 11/12/2025
TAKE NOTICE

County of Boone
Date Premises Sold: October 26, 2023
Certificate No.: 2022-00148
Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2022
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A
Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES
Property Located at: 618 East Macomb Street, Belvidere, IL 61008
Legal Description or Property Index No.: 05-26-228-006
This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 6, 2026.
The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming.
This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 6, 2026.
This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Boone County in 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008, via zoom room #3 ph# (312) 626-

6799 on May 19, 2026 at 9:15 AM. You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.
YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY
Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 6, 2026 by applying to the County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Belvidere, Illinois.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK
1212 Logan Ave.,
Suite 103
Belvidere, IL 61008
(815) 544-3103
Private Equity Group LLC
Purchaser or Assignee
November 12, 2025
13276618
Published in The Boone County Journal 11/25, 12/2/9 PNN

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT BOONE COUNTY - BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS
Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as Trustee for Residential Accredit Loans, Inc., Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-QS17 PLAINTIFF
Vs. No. 2025FC82
Ali R. Naqvi; Jaan Ali Naqvi as Trustee of the Ali Raza Naqvi Trust dated December 18, 2020; Candlewick Lake Association, Inc.; Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants DEFENDANTS
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN TO YOU:
Unknown Owners and Nonrecord Claimants
That this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, praying for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to-wit: COMMONLY KNOWN AS:

100 Spinnacre PI NE
Poplar Grove, IL 61065
and which said Mortgage was made by: Ali R. Naqvi, Hubi Z. Naqvi the Mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Irwin Mortgage Corporation, as Mortgagee, and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Boone County, Illinois, as Document No. 2005R11344; and for other relief; that summons was duly issued out of said Court against you as provided by law and that the said suit is now pending.
NOW, THEREFORE, UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the Office of the Clerk of this Court, Pamela Coduto
Clerk of the Circuit Court
601 North Main Street
Belvidere, IL 61008
on or before December 26, 2025, A DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU AT ANY TIME AFTER THAT DAY AND A JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRAYER OF SAID COMPLAINT.
CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100
Burr Ridge, IL 60527
(630) 794-5300
DuPage # 15170
Winnebago # 531
Our File No. 14-25-07191
NOTE: This law firm is a debt collector.
13277066
Published in The Boone County Journal 11/25, 12/2/9 PNN

TO: Linda S. Bergman; Tiffany A. Bergman; Robert P. Lyons; Craig E. Lyons; Martina M. Olsen; Nicholas P. Lyons; Craig E. Lyons; Craig E. Lyons; Amy Ohlsen, County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois; Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as “Unknown Owners”;
“Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots”.
TAX DEED NO.: 2025TX16
FILED: 11/12/2025
TAKE NOTICE

County of Boone
Date Premises Sold: October 26, 2023
Certificate No.: 2022-00085
Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2022
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A
Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES
Property Located at: 205 Rainbow Drive , Capron, IL 61012
Legal Description or Property Index No.: 04-11-203-012
This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on May 6, 2026.
The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming.
This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before May 6, 2026.
This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Boone County in 601 N. Main St., Belvidere, IL 61008, via Zoom Room #3 ph# (312) 626-6799, on May 19, 2026 at 9:15 AM. You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.
YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY
Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 6, 2026 by applying to the County Clerk of Boone County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Belvidere, Illinois.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK
1212 Logan Ave.,
Suite 103
Belvidere, IL 61008
(815) 544-3103
Private Equity Group LLC
Purchaser or Assignee
November 12, 2025
13276617
Published in The Boone County Journal 11/25, 12/2/9 PNN

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF BOONE
IN RE THE ESTATE OF: GREGORY F. ADRIAN, Deceased
CASE NO.: 2025 PR 72
CLAIM NOTICE

NOTICE is given of the death of GREGORY F. ADRIAN. Letters of Office were issued on November 17, 2025, to MITCHELL P. SAVILLE, who is the legal representative of the estate. Claims against the estate may be filed on or before May 26, 2026, that date being at least six (6) months from the date of first publication, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by 755 ILCS 5/18-3 of the Illinois Probate Act, 1975 as amended, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date as stated above shall be barred.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Boone County Circuit Clerks Office at the Boone County Courthouse in Belvidere, Illinois, or with the estate legal representatives, or both.

Copies of claims filed with the Circuit Clerk’s Office must be mailed or delivered to the estate legal representatives within ten days after it has been filed.

MITCHELL P. SAVILLE
Prepared by:
Mark D. Brynteson, Attorney for Mitchell P. Saville
2969 Rolling Meadow Court
Belvidere, IL 61008
ARDC: 6278824
T: (708) 667-6868
F: (815) 459-4075
E: mdb@bryntesonlaw.com PURSUANT TO ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT RULE 11 FOR PLEADINGS ONLY
Published in The Boone County Journal 11/25, 12/2/9

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT FOR BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS -
CHANCERY DIVISION

CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff,
vs. Case No.: 2025FC81
DORINDA WILLIAMS; TERRENCE WOODS; DORADO 1 RESIDENTIAL SOLAR, LLC, D/B/A DORADO 1 RESI SOLAR LLC; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants.
Property Address: 2779 Huntington Drive, Belvidere, IL 61008
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE FOLLOWING, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS defendants, that this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, asking for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit:
LOT TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY FOUR (274) IN FARMINGTON PHASE 8, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE WEST HALF (1/2) OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER (1/4) OF SECTION 31 AND PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (1/4) OF SECTION 31, TOWNSHIP 44 NORTH, RANGE 4, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED JULY 23, 2003 AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 2003R12100; SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOONE AND STATE OF ILLINOIS.

Commonly known as: 2779 Huntington Drive, Belvidere, IL 61008
Names of the titleholders of record: Dorinda Williams. Date of the Mortgage: June 30, 2011. Name or names of the mortgagors: Dorinda Williams; Terrence Woods. Name of the mortgagee: iFreedom Direct Corporation. Date and place of recording: July 5, 2011; Office of the Recorder of the Deeds of Boone County, Illinois. Identification of recording: Document No. 2011R04018. NOW THEREFORE, unless you file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case, on or before January 1, 2025, A JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT. E-filing is now mandatory with limited exceptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://illinoiscourts.gov/self-help> or talk with your local circuit clerk’s office. If you cannot e-file, you may be able to get an exemption that allows you to file in-person or by mail. Ask your circuit clerk for more information or visit www.illinoislegalaid.org. For information about defending yourself in a court case (including filing an appearance or fee waiver), or to apply for free legal help, go to www.illinoislegalaid.org. You can also ask your local circuit clerk’s office for a fee waiver application.

PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, THE PLAINTIFF’S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Lender Legal PLLC 1800 Pembroke Drive, Suite 250 Orlando, FL 32810 Tel: (407) 730-4644 Service Emails: cwinters@lenderlegal.com EService@LenderLegal.com Dorinda Williams 16142-3841 _s/ Colin Winters, Esq. Colin Winters, Esq. Counsel of Record for Plaintiff ARDC # 6297980
Published in The Boone County Journa Dec 2, 9, 16, 2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SEL STORAGE AUCTION
Notice is hereby given that Boxed Up Self Storage, or its affiliates, on behalf of the Owner of the facilities indicated below, intends to hold s public sale to satisfy a lien by selling personal property belonging to those individuals listed below for cash on January 07 , 2026, at approximately 7pm CST.
Boxed Up Self Storage - Poplar Grove
4431 IL Route 173 Poplar Grove, IL 61011-9754
Unit #-Tenant
#105- Murphy, Scott
#724- Gijon, Dayanira
#722- Gijon, Dayanira
Published in The Boone County Journal 12/2,9

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF Boone - Belvidere, ILLINOIS
PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff
vs. **25 FC 8**
SOCORRO YESSICA AGUILERA A/K/A SOCORRO Y AGUILERA; KEVIN RONALD BURGESS A/K/A KEVIN BURGESS A/K/A KEVIN R BURGESS; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendant
CALENDAR

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on January 8, 2026, at the hour 12:15 p.m., Outside the Circuit Clerk's Office in the Lobby of the Boone County Courthouse, 601 North Main Street, Belvidere, IL 61008, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

LOT THREE (3) AS DESIGNATED UPON PLAT OF HENNINGER HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER (1/4) OF SECTION 18, TOWNSHIP 44 NORTH, RANGE 4 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED APRIL 21, 1977 AS DOCUMENT NO. 77-1301, IN PLAT INDEX FILE NO 21, IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE OF BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BOONE AND STATE OF ILLINOIS.

P.I.N. 06-18-278-018.

Commonly known as 6984 Squaw Prairie Road, Belvidere, IL 61008.

The real estate is: single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: At sale, the bidder must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP, 1 North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200, Chicago, Illinois 60602. 312-346-9088. 25-20272IL

INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
13277189

Published in The Boone County Journal 12, 2/9/16, 2025

PNN

The following amount must be paid no later than 5 p.m. December 20, 2025.

FULL payment of CASH or MONEY ORDER ONLY, accepted by APPOINTMENT at :

Danndi Storage
13537 IL Rte. 76
Poplar Grove, IL 61065

Or the contents of the below listed units, located at 13511 Harvest Way, Poplar Grove, IL., will be sold at auction or otherwise disposed of on or any day after December 21, 2025.

Stephen Boardman – Unit #7 – Amount due \$501.00 plus advertising

Sarah Withers – Unit #13 – Amount due \$771.00 plus advertising
Frankie Chappel – Unit #54 – Amount due \$1101.00 plus advertising

Stephen Boardman – Unit #55 – Amount due \$501.00 plus advertising

Patrick Willingham – Unit #66 – Amount due \$2414.00 plus advertising

Chad Smith – Unit #69 – Amount due \$860.00 plus advertising
Barbara Hogan – Unit #98 – Amount due \$1017.00 plus advertising
Published in The Boone County Journal 12/2 and 9, 2025

ASSUMED NAMES

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION

No. 4257 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a PRODUCT SALES business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of MY MINI MOMENTS that its location is or will be 10122 MARENGO RD in GARDEN PRAIRIE, in the County of Boone County, State of Illinois, and that the true or real name(s) of the person(s) owning, conducting, or transacting the same with the post office address or address of said person(s) is shown below.

Phone Number: 815-543-3734

CHRISTIAN CARL NORGARD JR.

10122 MARENGO RD GARDEN PRAIRIE, ILLINOIS 61008

I, Amy E. Ohlsen, Clerk & Recorder of Boone County, in the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that the within is a true and correct copy of an Assumed Name Certificate on file in my office.

Dated: November 12, 2025

Amy E. Ohlsen, Clerk & Recorder of Boone County
Published in Boone County Journal 11/18,25 12/02 - P

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF BOONE ASSUMED NAME CERTIFICATE OF INTENTION

No. 4258 - The undersigned person(s) do hereby certify that a BEAUTY business is or is to be conducted or transacted under the name of PINK BUTTERFLY LASHES 2 that its location is or will be 1911 UNION AVE in BELVIDERE, in the County of Boone County, State of Illinois, and that the true or real name(s) of the person(s) owning, conducting, or transacting the same with the post office address or address of said person(s) is shown below.

Phone Number: 815-519-9925

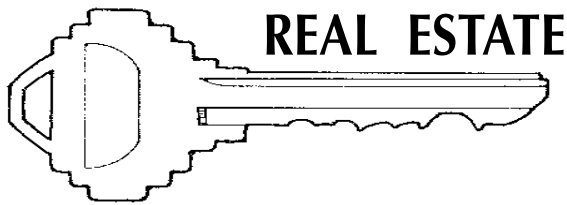
Dulce Maria De Jesus Cervantes Lopez SR

8545 OLYMPUS DR BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS 61008

I, Amy E. Ohlsen, Clerk & Recorder of Boone County, in the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that the within is a true and correct copy of an Assumed Name Certificate on file in my office.

Dated: November 12, 2025

Amy E. Ohlsen, Clerk & Recorder of Boone County
Published in Boone County Journal 11/18,25 12/02 - P



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

MCLP Asset Company, Inc. Plaintiff,
-v- 2025FC39

Denise M. Moore; et. al. Defendants.
442 W JACKSON ST,
BELVIDERE, IL 61008

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 7/15/2025, an agent of Auction.com, LLC will conduct the Online Only auction at www.auction.com, with the bidding window opening on 12/29/2025 at 10:00 AM CDT and closing on 12/31/2025 at 10:00 AM subject to extension, and will sell at public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate.

Commonly known as 442 W JACKSON ST, BELVIDERE, IL 61008

Property Index No. 05-26-184-001

The real estate is improved with a Single Family Residence.

The judgment amount was \$132,632.81

This sale is subject to a prior mortgage.

Sale Terms: Full Sale Terms are available on the property page at www.auction.com by entering 442 W JACKSON ST into the search bar. The winning bidder must pay the full bid amount within twenty-four (24) hours of the auction's end. All payments must be certified funds. No third-party checks will be accepted. All bidders will need to register at www.auction.com prior to placing a bid. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a certificate of sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property, prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by the Condominium property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9 (g)(l) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

For information, contact Plaintiff's attorney: CODILIS & ASSOCIATES PC (630) 794-5300 please refer to file number 14-25-03519.

Auction.com, LLC

100 N LaSalle St., Suite 1400 Chicago, IL 60602 – 872-225-4985

You can also visit www.auction.com.

Attorney File No. 14-25-03519

Case Number: 2025FC39

NOTE: PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, YOU ARE ADVISED THAT PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 6088-957216

Published in The Boone County Journal 11/25, 12/2/9

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF Boone - Belvidere, ILLINOIS
PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff

vs. **25 FC 8**

SOCORRO YESSICA AGUILERA A/K/A SOCORRO Y AGUILERA; KEVIN RONALD BURGESS A/K/A KEVIN BURGESS A/K/A KEVIN R BURGESS; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendant
CALENDAR

NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on January 8, 2026, at the hour 12:15 p.m., Outside the Circuit Clerk's Office in the Lobby of the Boone County Courthouse, 601 North Main Street, Belvidere, IL 61008, sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described mortgaged real estate:

Commonly known as 6984 Squaw Prairie Road, Belvidere, IL 61008.

The real estate is: single family residence. If the subject mortgaged real estate is a unit of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by subsection (g-1) of Section 18.5 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: At sale, the bidder must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information.

For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP, 1 North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200, Chicago, Illinois 60602. 312-346-9088. 25-20272IL

INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION
intercountyjudicialsales.com
13277189

Published in The Boone County Journal 12, 2/9/16, 2025

PNN

Pritzker Ramps Up Accountability Panel Focused on Alleged ICE Abuses

New appointments come as federal immigration raids ease in Chicago

Brenden Moore

Capitol News Illinois

The Illinois Accountability Commission is continuing to ramp up even as the Trump administration's immigration enforcement campaign in the Chicago region winds down, at least for now.

Gov. JB Pritzker on Thursday announced the appointment of two new commissioners and additional staff to the independent commission he created via executive order last month. It is tasked with producing a public record of alleged abuses perpetrated by federal agents during "Operation Midway Blitz." It will also examine the impact of such conduct on Illinois residents and communities and offer recommendations for accountability and reform.

Pritzker appointed attorney Jimmy Arce, a former federal prosecutor who was involved in the Justice Department's civil rights investigation of the Chicago Police Department; and Ric Estrada, the CEO of Metropolitan Family Services, which is one of the state's largest human services organizations. Eight commissioners have now been appointed.

"Since I signed the executive order, with guidance from the commissioners, the Illinois Department of Human Rights has been diligently working to set the foundation for this truly ground-breaking work to bring accountability for the Trump Administration's immigration enforcement actions," Pritzker said. "The appointments of Jimmy and Ric to the Commission round out this incredible team of public servants committed to demanding answers and the ongoing pursuit of justice for the people of Illinois."

Staff also hired

The commission has also hired Hina Mahood, a former deputy chief of staff at the Department of Human Services who most recently was director of Illinois initiatives for the JB & MK Pritzker Family Foundation, as its executive director.

The commission has also hired two attorneys with plans to hire more support staff in the coming weeks, the governor's office said.

Pritzker announced the commission's formation at the height of the Trump administration's immigration enforcement blitz, which the Department of Homeland Security claims — as of last month — resulted in the arrests of more than 3,300 people.

But it also led to violent clashes between federal agents and protesters, often outside an Immigration and Customs Enforcement processing facility in suburban Broadview but also during enforcement operations in Chicago neighborhoods. Agents, including U.S. Customs and Border Patrol Commander Gregory Bovino, often used riot control weapons like tear gas and pepper balls to disperse crowds.

While DHS spokeswoman Tricia McLaughlin told Capitol News Illinois that the operation is "ongoing," there is evidence that it quickly wound down last week, with Bovino leaving Chicago for North

continued on page 8

ICE

from page 7

Carolina and taking many of his agents with him.

And Trump administration lawyers told a federal judge earlier this week that only four detainees were being held in the Broadview facility, a stunning decline from testimony earlier this month of former detainees who described holding rooms stuffed with hundreds of people.

However, the reprieve may be short-lived. The Chicago Sun-Times reported last week that as many as 1,000 agents could hit the streets in March — four times the amount in town over the past two months.

Commission ramping up

The commission will ramp up its operations during the expected lull period.

Commissioners and staff have started outreach efforts, explored community partnerships and are conducting a “landscape analysis” of information already in the public domain to examine the impact of related and ongoing litigation, according to the governor’s office.

But it’s still a work in progress. Pritzker notably encouraged people to document interactions with federal agents by taking videos with their phones. But on the commission’s website, there was still no method to submit such evidence directly to the commission as of Thursday afternoon. Instead, people are encouraged to contact a hotline operated by the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, an outside group.

“The commission will provide updates to the public if there are other avenues to share information,” the website states.

Beyond that, the website lists information about the commissioners and executive staff, the language of the executive order that created it, links to news releases about it and links directing people to legal help and information about their rights when interacting with law enforcement.

Pritzker’s executive order also explicitly calls for the commission to hold public hearings to document the conduct of federal officials. But no information is yet available about when those will be held or how members of the public can participate.

The commission has been tasked with providing an initial report on its findings and recommendations to Pritzker no later than Jan. 31. A final report will be issued no later than April 30, 2026.

The commission’s website can be found at <https://ilac.illinois.gov/>.

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service that distributes state government coverage to hundreds of news outlets statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

University Enrollment In Illinois Grows to 10-Year High Despite Some Declines

Campuses see more new undergraduates, fewer international grad students

Peter Hancock

Capitol News Illinois

Enrollment at public universities in Illinois grew to a 10-year high of 189,791 students, a 2.3% increase over last year, according to figures released by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

The numbers were driven mainly by growth in undergraduate enrollment, particularly among incoming freshmen, which was up 6.8% from the previous year. They also reflect large increases in underrepresented student populations including Black student enrollment, which was up 9.7%, and Latino enrollment, which grew 8.3%.

“I think that is a product of the strategies and investments that we’ve made in the state of Illinois,” Deputy Gov. Martin Torres, who oversees education policy in Gov. JB Pritzker’s administration, said in an interview. “Students are choosing our institutions. And what I see is, seven of our 12 campuses seeing an increase in student enrollment is a huge win for the state.”

Torres highlighted the fact that since Pritzker took office in 2019, Illinois has increased funding for basic operating costs at universities and community colleges. It has also increased financial aid programs such as the need-based Monetary Award Program, or MAP grants, and the merit-based Aim High scholarship program.

“I think part of the reason they’re choosing Illinois is because we’ve made it more affordable to go to college,” he said. “Part of the reason why they’re choosing Illinois is because the governor has created an environment where people feel welcome and valued.”

Statewide, however, the growth in undergraduate enrollment was partially offset by declines in graduate and professional school enrollment, especially among international students. Enrollment was also down at two of the state’s smaller regional campuses — Western Illinois University in Macomb, and Eastern Illinois University in Charleston.

Growing campuses

According to IBHE, the University of Illinois Chicago saw the largest growth with 1,967 more students, bringing its total to 35,869. But Chicago State University recorded the largest percentage increase, with 241 additional students, a 10.8% increase over the previous year.

“I think you have to give a lot of credit to the (CSU) President Z Scott,” Torres said. “She’s done a tremendous job over time of demonstrating the value of the product that they offer, of building strong, viable connections with industry and the business community.”

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, the state’s largest university campus, added 1,614 students, or 2.7%, bringing its total enrollment to 60,848.

Other campuses that saw enrollment growth in-

cluded both the Edwardsville and Carbondale campuses of Southern Illinois University, and Northern Illinois University.

Some declines seen

Overall, international student enrollment was down 6.5% across the public university system in Illinois. That included a 14.1% decline in international students enrolling in graduate and professional schools, a trend that Torres attributed directly to President Donald Trump and his administration’s immigration policies.

“Donald Trump is making it harder for students to obtain visas,” Torres said. “He’s restricting travel and he is open in his anti-immigrant rhetoric. The reality is, there is talent across the globe, and for decades, the United States has been a post-secondary anchor for global talents, and that’s changed dramatically under this administration.”

As for the shrinking campuses, both Western and Eastern Illinois have struggled financially in recent years.

In 2024, WIU announced it was cutting nearly 90 faculty and staff positions as part of a plan to meet growing budget pressures. And EIU announced in October it was also eliminating dozens of faculty and staff positions due to revenue declines brought on by several factors, including lower international student enrollment.

But others point to the state’s current formula for funding higher education and note that EIU and WIU are two of the least adequately funded universities in the state. The Illinois Commission on Equitable Public University Funding, which has proposed legislation to overhaul the funding formula, estimated last year that EIU was being funded at 48% of its adequacy target while WIU was being funded at 46% of adequacy.

The proposed legislation, which failed to advance out of a Senate committee during the spring legislative session, would establish a new formula that would give underfunded schools like EIU and WIU priority for any new higher education funding. It would be similar to the Evidence-Based Funding formula that lawmakers have used for K-12 education since 2017.

‘Long-term brain drain’

Torres, however, said the Pritzker administration is not yet ready to back the new higher education funding plan.

“We haven’t taken a position on the proposal,” he said. “The governor has been focused on increasing access to financial aid, buoying the state’s investment in the institutions, and I think we’ve seen success from there. I think there’s probably going to be much more conversation about that proposal, and we look forward to it.”

But John Miller, president of University Professionals of Illinois Local 4100, which represents about 3,000 university employees, issued a statement saying despite the enrollment report, Illinois is still losing students due to its chronic underfunding of higher education.

“Illinois continues to lose too many students to out-of-state public universities because it is simply more affordable for them to leave,” he said. “This long-term brain drain is the direct result of the state’s failure to invest, and no press release can cover that up.”

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